

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 COME-00 AID-20 EB-11 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12

PRS-01 RSR-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AGR-20 IO-12 /145 W
----- 068027

R 301515 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3146

INFO AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 MASERU 471

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

DEPT PASS COMMERCE, AID

E O 11652 N A

TAGS: PGOV PFOR LT

SUBJ: THIRD SITTING OF INTERIM NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

REF: A. MASERU 466, B. MASERU 470

1. THIRD SITTING OF INA HELD MORNING OF APRIL 30 OPENED
WITH SPEECH BY PRIME MINISTER JONATHAN.

P. M. EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT MEMBERS WOULD WISH
TO ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH HIS MAJESTY'S CALL FOR NATIONAL
UNITY IN CARRYING OUT THEIR TASKS AS CUSTODIANS OF NATIONAL
ASPIRATIONS OF BASOTHO (REFTEL A) AND MOVED THAT INA THANK
KING FOR HIS SPEECH.

IN REVIEW OF EVENTS LEADING TO POLITICAL IN IMPASSE
WHICH INA NOW ASKED TO RESOLVE PM RECALLED DIVISIONS WHICH
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PARTISAN POLITICS AND EXPEDIENCY BROUGHT FOLLOWING INDEPENDENCE

IN 1966. LAST NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BECAME HOUSE OF DESTRUCTION RATHER THAN CONSTRUCTION DEBATE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WAS HELD BACK.

ALL SHARE IN RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVENTS LEADING TO 1970 EMERGENCY AND HAD TO CONCEDE COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY BEFORE RECONSTRUCTION COULD BEGIN. THIS, P. M. HOPED WAS SPIRIT IN WHICH LEADERS OF ALL PARTIES PUBLISHED JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF 30 APRIL 1970 AGREEING TO DISREGARD ELECTIONS OF 27 JANUARY 1970.

INA MEMBERS MUST BE CONSTRUCTIVE BUILDERS AND PARTNERS IN PROGRESS AND WELL BEING OF NATION. AS IN DAYS OF OLD INTEGRITY OF NATION IS PRIME CONSIDERATION.

LAST CONSTITUTION WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO LARGE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE AND WAS ACCEPTED ONLY TO ATTAIN INDEPENDENCE INA SHOULD DEVISE NEW SYSTEM EMBRACING NATIONAL ASPIRATION AND ESTABLISHING STABLE FUTURE FOR DEMOCRATIC PROCESS.

SITTING OF INA IS BEGINNING OF PM' S RESOLVE TO IMPLEMENT HIS UNDERTAKING TO BRING COMMUNITY TO NORMALITY AS SOON AS PEACE AND STABILITY PREVAILED.

INA IS NOT COMPLETELY SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT BUT IT PROVIDES NEW OPPORTUNITY TO FIND SATISFACTORY SOLUTION.

OLD CONSTITUTION FAILED BECAUSE IT ALIEN TO AND DISREGARDED BASOTHO TRADITIONS. INA MUST SEEK TO ESTABLISH CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS SUITED TO LESOTHO' S SITUATION AND NOT INSPIRED BY DESIRE TO IMPRESS OUTSIDE.

INA MUST PLACE POLITICS AFTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COLONIAL POLICY WAS NOT TO DEVELOP LESOTHO TOWARDS ECONOMIC STABILITY AND AT INDEPENDENCE LESOTHO WAS IN STATE OF ABJECT POVERTY. FOR THIS REASON, SINCE 1970 GOVERNMENT TOOK ADVANTAGE OF ABSENCE OF DISTRACTIONS CAUSED BY PARTY POLITICS TO ACCELERATE VIGOROUS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. FIVE YEAR UNCLASSIFIED

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DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND UN DEVELOPMENT COUNTRY PROGRAM WERE PREPARED. UNPRECEDENTED CAPITAL WHICH ATTRACTED INTO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT HAS CREATED THOUSANDS OF JOBS. NEEDS OF NATION HAVE BEEN MET BY PROVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES, ROADS, CLINICS, SUBSIDIZED AGRICULTURAL SCHEMES AND KNOW- HOW.

PM ALSO MENTIONED PLANNED LAND TENURE REFORM, WATER LEGISLATION, AND PLANS FOR SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN AND THIS

YEAR'S BALANCING OF RECURRENT BUDGET. BIGGEST INDUSTRIAL POTENTIAL IS IN TOURISM.

LESOTHO PREPARED TO DISCUSS MALIBAMATSO WATER PROJECT WHENEVER RSA READY. BUT LESOTHO ALSO CONSIDERING OTHER SCHEMES TO HARNESS HYDROELECTRIC POWER FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION IN IRRIGATION AND ELECTRICAL POWER SCHEMES.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING EMERGENCY PERIOD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE BECAUSE LEGACY OF NATIONALISM I. E., PEACE AND STABILITY WAS REESTABLISHED. THEREFORE, INA RESPONSIBLE FOR GUARANTEEING CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF PEACE AND STABILITY. OLD NATIONALISM MUST BE RESTORED AND PRESENT POLITICAL FREEDOM MUST CONTRIBUTE TO THIS.

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AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 MASERU 471

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

DEPT PASS COMMERCE, AID

TURNING TO FOREIGN POLICY. . M. STATED THOUGH LESOTHO POLICY DETERMINED

BY NATIONAL INTEREST IT NOT STATIC. LESOTHO WOULD CONTINUE TO STRENGTH
TEN

LINKS WITH OLD FRIENDS, AND SEEK NEW FRIENDS WILL ALL MEMBERS OF U. N. COMMONWEALTH, NON- ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND OAU IRRESPECTIVE OF

IDEOLOGICAL

DIFFERENCES. AID AND LOANS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM
ANY COUNTRY SO LONG AS IT NOT POLTTICALLY TIED.

DIALOGUE POLICY IN DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN RELATIONS WILL BE CONTINUED.
BUT MORAL AND OTHER POSSIBLE SUPPORT TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS
FIGHTING COLONIALISM AND RACIALISM WILL BE CONTINUED.

LESOTHO WILL CONTINUE TO CONDEMN TENDENCY OF BIG POWERS TO
IGNORE INCREASING GAP BETWEEN DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.
MONEY AND ENERGY SPENT ON ARMS CRITICIZED, PARTICULARLY THOSE
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SOLD TO WHITE MINORITY REGIMES IN AFRICA TO PERPERTUATE RACIAL
OPPRESSION AND RETARD POLITICAL PROGRESS OF BLACK
MAJORITY.

AS INDEPENDENT COUNTRY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, LESOTHO IS DEVELOPING
NON- RACIAL SOCIETY CONCLUSIVE TO INDUSTRIAL GROWTH BECAUSE IT
NOT HINDERED BY JOB RESTRICTIONS.

LESOTHO BELIEVES IN JOINT PARTICIPATION IN INDUSTRUAL GROWTH AND
WELCOMES FOREIGN INVESTMENT.

LESOTHO EXPECTS MORE ASSISTANCE FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT
FROM COUNTRIES WHICH SUPPORT PRINCIPLE OF PROMOTION OF
NON- RACIALISM. LACK OF MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION BY THESE COUNTRIES
IN THIS DIRECTION WOULD INDICATE THEY ONLY PAYING LIP SERVICE
TO COMMITTANT TO NON- RACIALISM.

FLAGRANT CONTRAVENTION OF UN SANCTIONS POLICY AGAINST RHODESIA BY
DEVELOPED WORLD MUST BE CONDEMNED BECAUSE IT BOOSTS MORALE
VEHEMENTLY OF ILLEGAL RACIST SMITH REGIME. DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES WITH CONTINUED VESTED INTEREST IN WHITE RULED AFRICAN
COUNTRIES MUST REALIZE OPPOSITION TO RACISM IS ESCALATING TO
POINT WHERE DIALOGUE WILL BECOME IMPOSSIBLE.

WESTERN PROVINCES ARE NEGATING THEIR RESPONSIBILITY BY SUGGESTING
RACIAL PROBLEMS OF SOUTH AFRICA ARE AN AFRICAN PROBLEM FOR
MYTH OF RACIAL SUPERIORITY IS IN VIOLATION OF UN
WHICH MAKES SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEM AN INTERNATIONAL ISSUE
PARTICUL-
ARLY
BECAUSE OF ITS ESCALATION TO CONFRONTATION.
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